

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/527,793

Applicant(s)

OZASA ET AL

Examiner

Art Unit

Ronald D. Hartman Jr.

2121

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the filing of 3/15/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 1, line 6, delete "each of materials," and replace with -- each of the materials in the material database, --

Claim 1, lines 8-9, insert -- the -- in between "each of" and "controlled".

Claim 1, line 9, replace "the" with -- a --.

Claim 1, lines 10-11, delete "permission/non-permission of use of the material;" and replace with -- a permission and non-permission, with respect to a use of a material; --.

Claim 1, line 23, delete "each of materials" and replace with -- each of the materials --.

Claim 2, line 9, insert -- selected -- in between "the" and "material".

Claim 5, line 8, delete "each of materials," and replace with -- each of the materials in the material database, --

Claim 5, line 10, insert -- the -- in between "each of" and "controlled".

Claim 5, line 11, replace "the" with -- a --.

Claim 5, lines 12-13, delete "permission/non-permission of use of the material;" and replace with -- a permission and non-permission, with respect to a use of a material; --.

Claim 5, line 24, delete "each of materials" and replace with -- each of the materials --.

Claim 6, lines 11-12, replace "the material" and replace with -- the selected material --.

Claim 9, lines 6-7, delete "each of materials," and replace with -- each of the materials in the material database, --

Claim 9, line 9, insert -- the -- in between "of" and "controlled".

Claim 9, line 9, replace "in the material" with -- in a material --.

Claim 9, lines 10-11, delete "permission/non-permission of use of the material;" and replace with -- a permission and non-permission, with respect to a use of a material; --.

Claim 9, line 21, "each of materials" and replace with -- each of the materials --.

Claim 10, line 10, replace "the material" and replace with -- the selected material --.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-4 are allowed.

As per claims 1-4, specifically independent claim 1, the prior art of records fails to teach a design supporting system that is connected to a client terminal over a network and supports component design that is executed in the client terminal, the system comprising:

a storage device which stores a material database for managing, with respect to each of **the materials in the material database**, a material name of each material, controlled substance information indicative of a content of each of **the** controlled substances included in **a material**, and **a** discrimination information indicative of **a** permission **and** non-permission, **with respect to a** use of **a material**;

a design information acquisition unit configured to cooperate with a component design supporting program which is executed by the client terminal, and acquire, from the component design supporting program via the network, component design information including volume information indicative of a volume of a component which is designed using the component design supporting program;

a determination unit configured to determine, when a material selection request relating to the designed component is input from the client terminal via the network, whether each of **the** materials stored in the material database is a usable material for a component classification corresponding to the designed component, based on the discrimination information and information indicative of a relationship between the component classification and usable materials for the component belonging to the component classification;

a generation unit configured to generate, based on a result of the determination, list information indicative of a list of names of usable materials for the component classification corresponding to the designed component, and send the list information to the client terminal over the network;

a controlled substance information acquisition unit configured to acquire, from the material database, controlled substance information corresponding to the material name which is selected from the list information by the client terminal;

a calculation unit configured to calculate, based on the acquired controlled substance information and the volume information included in the acquired component design information, a content of the controlled substance which is included in the designed component when the material of the selected material name is applied to the designed component; and

an output unit configured to output the calculated content of the controlled substance as evaluation information of the designed component.

(Examiner Note: changes made by way of the Examiner's Amendment are indicated in **bold**).

Claims 5-8 are allowed.

As per claims 5-8, specifically independent claim 5, the prior art of record fails to teach a program which is stored in a computer- readable medium and causes a computer, which can execute communication with a client terminal over a network, to support component design that is executed in the client terminal, the program comprising:

causing the computer to execute a process of managing a material database which manages, with respect to each of **the materials in the material database** , a material name of each material, controlled substance information indicative of a content of each of **the** controlled substances included in a material, and a discrimination information indicative of a permission **and** non-permission, **with respect to a** use of a material;

causing the computer to execute a process of acquiring component design information including volume information indicative of a volume of a component, which is designed using a component design supporting program that is executed by the client terminal, from the component design supporting program via the network;

causing the computer to execute a process of determining, when a material selection request relating to the designed component is input from the client terminal via the network, whether each of **the** materials stored in the material database is a usable material for a component classification corresponding to the designed component, based on the discrimination information and information indicative of a relationship between the component classification and usable materials for the component belonging to the component classification;

causing the computer to execute a process of generating, based on a determination result of the material determination process, list information that is indicative of a list of names of usable materials for the component classification corresponding to the designed component, and sending the material name list information to the client terminal over the network;

causing the computer to execute a process of acquiring, from the material database, controlled substance information corresponding to the material name that is selected from the list information by the client terminal;

causing the computer to execute a process of calculating, based on the acquired controlled substance information and the volume information included in the acquired component design information, a content of the controlled substance that is included in the designed component when the material of the selected material name is applied to the designed component; and

causing the computer to execute an evaluation information output process of outputting the calculated content of the controlled substance as evaluation information of the designed component.

(Examiner Note: changes made by way of the Examiner's Amendment are indicated in **bold**).

As per claims 9-12, specifically independent claim 9, the prior art of record fails to teach a method of supporting component design that is executed in a client terminal, with use of a computer that can execute communication with the client terminal over a network, the method comprising:

executing a process of managing a material database that manages, with respect to each of **the materials in the materials database**, a material name of each material, controlled substance information indicative of a content of each of **the** controlled substances included in a material, and a discrimination information indicative of a permission **and** non-permission, **with respect to a** use of a material;

executing a process of acquiring component design information including volume information indicative of a volume of a component, which is designed using a component design supporting program that is executed by the client terminal, from the component design supporting program via the network;

executing a material determination process of determining, when a material selection request relating to the designed component is input from the client terminal via the network, whether each of **the** materials stored in the material database is a usable material for a component classification corresponding to the designed component, based on the discrimination information and information indicative of a relationship

between the component classification and usable materials for the component belonging to the component classification;

executing a process of generating, based on a determination result of the material determination process, list information that is indicative of a list of names of usable materials for the component classification corresponding to the designed component, and sending the list information to the client terminal over the network;

executing a process of acquiring, from the material database, controlled substance information corresponding to the material name that is selected from the list information by the client terminal;

executing a process of calculating, based on the acquired controlled substance information and the volume information included in the acquired component design information, a content of the controlled substance that is included in the designed component when the material of the selected material name is applied to the designed component; and

executing an evaluation information output process of outputting the calculated content of the controlled substance as evaluation information of the designed component.

(Examiner Note: changes made by way of the Examiner's Amendment are indicated in **bold**).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald D. Hartman Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3684. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 11:00 - 8:30 pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on (571) 272-3687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

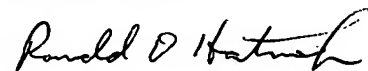
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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ronald D Hartman Jr.

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 2121



September 29, 2007

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